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Proposal contained in the file is regarding sanction of grants to Tribal Councils of Nicobar Islands.

The department has stated that an amount of Rs 31.22 lakhs was released to respective Tribal Councils during the year 2004-2005 as per the letter dated 8.2.2005 (page 18/cor) of the Ministry of Tribal Welfare. The UC and audited statement of accounts in respect of grants released previously has not been submitted.

In this connection, it is stated that the Government of India has taken serious view for non-submission of utilization certificate by the Statutory Bodies, Non-Governmental Organizations etc. The Government of India has also asked the Administration to fix the responsibility for releasing grants without obtaining the UC. The matter has also been examined by the PAO Organization which has been authorized to check the UC before release of grants under the Civil Accounts Manual and copy of instructions issued to all Pay and Accounts Officers vide letter dated 30th June, 2005 may kindly be seen at F/AA. It may be seen from para 2 of the letter that the Government of India has instructed that the department should obtain the UC in time and further release to the defaulting entities should be stopped after 30th June, 2005 without express clearance of Ministry of Finance.

It is further mentioned that Dr Adarsh Kishore, Secretary (Expenditure) in the Ministry of Finance as per his DO letter No. 12(3)/E.Coord/2005 dated 16th June, 2005 (F/BB) has pointed out that fresh grants of Rs 68.60 Crs have been issued during 2003-2004 without obtaining utilization certificate of previous year. The Government of India has further wanted to know the circumstances under which fresh grants were released without obtaining UC of the previous years. The Secretary (Expenditure) has also indicated that the Ministry of Finance has issued instructions following the judgment of High Court of Delhi directing that no fresh grant be released unless utilization certificate for the previous year are furnished. Moreover, the grants-in-aid rules is yet to be approved by the competent authority.

In view of the position explained above, it is not appropriate from finance point of view to concur for release of fresh grants without furnishing

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Rd(2)

24/9/05

Secretary (TM)

Comm-cum-Secy (TM)

Director (Finance) (on tour)

19.9.05

Pl write a letter to Deptt in relation to the sanction of the Govt. D.A.

Senior Accounts Officer (M. T. Thomas) after 1st/11/05

(42) 20/9/05